AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A cosmetic composition, comprising:

a physiologically acceptable medium,

at least one alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate, and

at least one lipophilic amino acid derivative,

wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate has an alkyl group containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate to lipophilic amino acid derivative ratios is from 1:20 to 70:30.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate is at least one selected from the group consisting of methyl para-hydroxybenzoate, propyl para-hydroxybenzoate, and butyl para-hydroxybenzoate.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the lipophilic amino acid derivative is at least one amino acid ester of formula (I):

$$R'_1(CO)N(R'_2)CH(R'_3)\ (CH_2)_n(CO)OR'_4 \qquad (I)$$

in which:

n is an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2,

R'_1 represents a linear or branched C_5 to C_{21} alkyl or alkenyl radical,

R'_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_3 alkyl group,

R'_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a linear C_3 alkyl radical, a linear C_4 alkyl radical, a branched C_3 alkyl radical, and a branched C_4 alkyl radical, and

R'_4 represents a linear C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a branched C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a linear C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical, a branched C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical or a sterol residue.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 21, wherein the amino acid ester is isopropyl N-lauroylsarcosinate:

CH_3-$(CH_2)_{10}$CO-N(CH_3)-CH_2-COO-$CH(CH_3)_2$.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate is present in an amount from 0.001% to 80% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate is present in an amount of from 0.01% to 60% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate is present in an amount of from 0.01% to 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate is present in an amount of from 0.05% to 1% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the lipophilic amino acid derivative is present in an amount of from 0.01% to 90% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the lipophilic amino acid derivative is present in an amount of from 0.1% to 30% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the lipophilic amino acid derivative is present in an amount of from 0.1% to 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 19, further comprising:

at least one dispersion of solid particles.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 30, wherein the solid particles are microparticles having a size of less than or equal to 20 μm.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 30, wherein the solid particles are at least one selected from the group consisting of synthetic mineral fibers, natural mineral fibers, synthetic organic fibers, natural organic fibers, and wax microdispersions.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 32, comprising fibers selected from the group consisting of silk fibers, cotton fibers, wool fibers, flax fibers, cellulose fibers, polyamide fibers, rayon fibers, viscose fibers, acetate fibers, poly-p-phenyleneterephthalamide fibers, acrylic fibers, polyolefin fibers, glass fibers, silica fibers, aramid fibers, carbon fibers, polytetrafluoroethylene fibers, insoluble collagen fibers, polyester fibers, polyvinyl chloride fibers, polyvinylidene chloride fibers, polyvinyl alcohol fibers, polyacrylonitrile fibers, chitosan fibers, polyurethane fibers, polyethylene phthalate fibers, blends thereof, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 32, comprising fibers selected from the group consisting of cellulose fibers extracted from wood, cellulose fibers extracted from vegetables, cellulose fibers extracted from algae, rayon acetate fibers, cellulose acetate fibers, silk acetate fibers, polymethylmethacrylate fibers, poly(2-

hydroxyethyl methacrylate) fibers, polyethylene fibers, polypropylene fibers, graphite fibers, polyamide/polyester fibers, blends thereof and mixtures thereof.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 32, comprising fibers selected from the group consisting of polyamide fibers, rayon fibers and mixtures thereof.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 32, comprising at least one wax microdispersion selected from the group consisting of a microdispersion of a hydrocarbon wax, a wax obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of animal or plant oils containing linear or branched C_8-C_{32} fatty chains, a silicone wax and a fluorowax.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 32, comprising at least one wax microdispersion selected from the group consisting of a microdispersion of beeswax, a microdispersion of lanolin wax, a microdispersion of a Chinese insect wax, a microdispersion of a rice wax, a microdispersion of a carnuba wax, a microdispersion of a candelilla wax, a microdispersion of an ouricury wax, a microdispersion of a cork fiber wax, a microdispersion of a sugar cane wax, a microdispersion of a Japan wax, a microdispersion of a sumach wax, a microdispersion of a montan wax, a microdispersion of one or more waxy copolymers, a hydrogenated jojoba oil, a hydrogenated sunflower oil, a hydrogenated castor oil, a hydrogenated coconut oil, a hydrogenated lanolin oil and esters thereof.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 31, wherein the solid particles are present in an amount of from 0.05% to 20% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 31, wherein the solid particles are present in an amount of from 0.1% to 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): A process for dissolving at least one alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate having an alkyl group containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, comprising:

mixing the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate with at least one amino acid ester of formula (I):

$$R'_1(CO)N(R'_2)CH(R'_3)\ (CH_2)_n(CO)OR'_4 \qquad (I)$$

in which:

n is an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2,

R'_1 represents a linear or branched C_5 to C_{21} alkyl or alkenyl radical,

R'_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_3 alkyl group,

R'_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a linear C_3 alkyl radical, a linear C_4 alkyl radical, a branched C_3 alkyl radical, and a branched C_4 alkyl radical, and

R'_4 represents a linear C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a branched C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a linear C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical, a branched C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical or a sterol residue; to dissolve the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 40, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate and the amino acid ester are present in an alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate/amino acid ester ratio of between ~~0.001/99.99~~ 1/20 and 70/30.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 40, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate and the amino acid ester are present in an alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate/amino acid ester ratio of between 20/80 and 60/40.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): A process, comprising:

treating a mixture comprising one or more solid particles with at least one amino acid ester of formula (I):

$R'_1(CO)N(R'_2)CH(R'_3)\ (CH_2)_n(CO)OR'_4$ (I)

in which:

n is an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2,

R'_1 represents a linear or branched C_5 to C_{21} alkyl or alkenyl radical,

R'_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_3 alkyl group,

R'_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a linear C_3 alkyl radical, a linear C_4 alkyl radical, a branched C_3 alkyl radical, and a branched C_4 alkyl radical, and

R'_4 represents a linear C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a branched C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a linear C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical, a branched C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical or a sterol

residue; to prevent the adsorption of at least one alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate onto the solid particles.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 43, wherein the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate has an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented: The process of Claim 43, wherein the solid particles are present in the form of a dispersion in a physiologically acceptable medium.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 43, wherein the treating includes mixing the amino acid ester and the alkyl para-hydroxybenzoate in the presence of the solid particles.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 46, wherein the amino acid ester and the para-hydroxybenzoate are mixed with a dispersion of the solid particles in a physiologically acceptable medium.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 43, wherein the solid particles are at least one selected from the group consisting of synthetic mineral fibers, natural mineral fibers, synthetic organic fibers, natural organic fibers, and wax microdispersions.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): A cosmetic process, comprising:

applying the cosmetic composition of Claim 19 to at least one of the skin, mucous membranes and keratin fibers of a human.

Claim 50 (New): The composition according to Claim 19, wherein the lipophilic amino acid derivative is at least one amino acid ester of formula (I):

$R'_1(CO)N(R'_2)CH(R'_3)\ (CH_2)_n(CO)OR'_4$ (I)

in which:

n is an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2,

R'_1 represents a linear or branched C_5 to C_{21} alkyl or alkenyl radical,

R'_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_3 alkyl group,

R'_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a linear C_3 alkyl radical, a linear C_4 alkyl radical, a branched C_3 alkyl radical, and a branched C_4 alkyl radical, and

R'_4 represents a linear C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a branched C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a linear C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical, or a branched C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical.

Claim 51 (New): The process according to Claim 40, wherein the lipophilic amino acid derivative is at least one amino acid ester of formula (I):

$R'_1(CO)N(R'_2)CH(R'_3)\ (CH_2)_n(CO)OR'_4$ (I)

in which:

n is an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2,

R'_1 represents a linear or branched C_5 to C_{21} alkyl or alkenyl radical,

R'_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_3 alkyl group,

R'_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a linear C_3 alkyl radical, a linear C_4 alkyl radical, a branched C_3 alkyl radical, and a branched C_4 alkyl radical, and

R'_4 represents a linear C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a branched C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a linear C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical, or a branched C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical.

Claim 52 (New): The process according to Claim 43, wherein the lipophilic amino acid derivative is at least one amino acid ester of formula (I):

$$R'_1(CO)N(R'_2)CH(R'_3)\ (CH_2)_n(CO)OR'_4 \qquad (I)$$

in which:

n is an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2,

R'_1 represents a linear or branched C_5 to C_{21} alkyl or alkenyl radical,

R'_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_3 alkyl group,

R'_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a linear C_3 alkyl radical, a linear C_4 alkyl radical, a branched C_3 alkyl radical, and a branched C_4 alkyl radical, and

R'_4 represents a linear C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a branched C_1 to C_{10} alkyl radical, a linear C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical, or a branched C_2 to C_{10} alkenyl radical.